

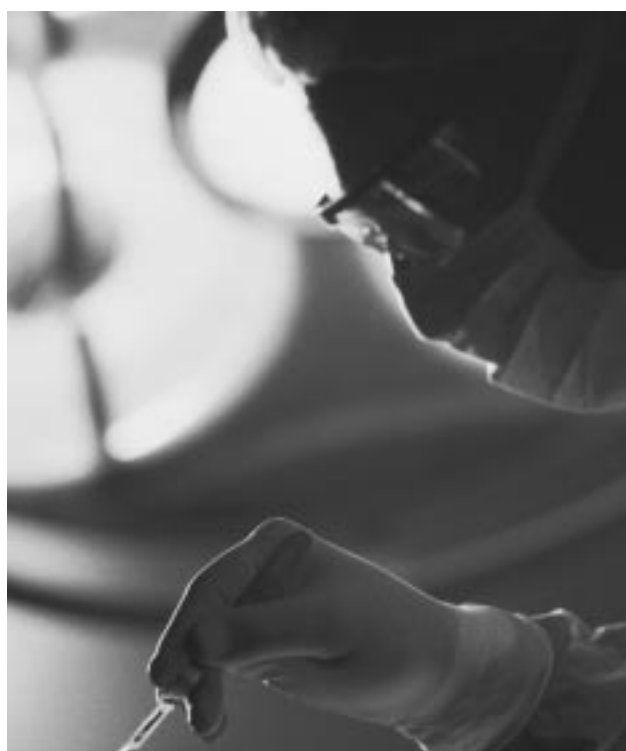
Welcome...

As part of its mission to protect and promote the health of Missourians, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is pleased to issue this consumer guide. Inside are reports on the volume of various surgical procedures performed in Missouri hospitals. This information can assist health care consumers and purchasers in making informed choices regarding these surgical procedures.

We believe that consumers have a right to know as much as possible about the services from health care providers and about the quality of these services. Empowered with this information we can all contribute to developing and providing the highest quality of health care for the citizens of Missouri.

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The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has attempted to publish accurate information based upon common definitions. The data reported in this brochure are based on hospital discharge data reported from 1998 to 2000. Hospitals were given an opportunity to review and correct the data presented. Other corrections or suggestions should be forwarded to the Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Our telephone number is (573) 526-2812.

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